programme, every pregnant women is given 100 tablets of iron/folic acid (large) for prevention of anaemia. Pregnant women who are anaemic are given an additional 100 tablets. Anaemic children are provided with 100 tablets of iron/folic acid (small).

Several steps have been taken to improve nutritional status of women and children. These include, the Integrated Child Development Scheme which provides supplementary nutrition to young children and pregnant and lactating mothers. Promotion of exclusive breast-feeding up to six months of age and appropriate feeding practices is being undertaken. In addition, to the programme for control of iron deficiency anaemia a programme for control of Vitamin-A deficiency in children is under implementation.

Setting up of an integrated disease surveillance network

2271. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up a plan to set-up an integrated disease surveillance network throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a pilot project is being set-up initially on a trial basis;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when, the full scheme is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) As a Public Health measure, Government of India has been implementing various National Health Programmes, including the National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases. The National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases was launched as a pilot programme in 1997-98 in 5 districts (one each in Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat) with a view to strengthen the disease surveillance system so that early warning signals of outbreaks are recognized and appropriate follow-up action is initiated. The programme is being implemented through the

existing health infrastructure and surveillance system involving training of medical and para-medical personnel, upgradation of laboratories, and improvement in communication system. The programme is currently being implemented in 100 districts.

Under the Tenth Five Year Plan, a Project Implementation Plan, integrating various activities under the programme is under preparation so as to strengthen the existing surveillance system at the district, State and National levels and to build up additional capacities for effective communication and technology, upgradation of laboratories etc., ensure involvement of public and private sector institutions, private practioners and NGOs in the process of effective implementation of disease surveillance programme. This would integrate non-communicable diseases also in the programme, develop proper urban surveillance systems, and optimize the utilization of available resources and to bring about effective inter-sectoral cooperation among various agencies in the Health and Non-Health Sector.

Sale of kidneys in Assam

2272. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Youth put up their kidneys for sale", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 18th March, 2002;

(b) whether jobless and penniless rural youths in Assam are on active sale of their kidneys and they are within their rights to sell their kidneys as per the local authorities?

(c) if so, whether Government would ban the sale of parts of the body by individuals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has got no such specific information except what